


WARSHIPS ORDERED OFF TO VENEZUELA



WILL RECOGNIZE
NEW GOVERNMENT

Moves Made in Secret Tell of
Well-Considered Plan
of Action.

A black and white portrait of a man from the chest up. He is wearing a dark suit jacket over a white shirt and a dark tie. The image is framed by a decorative border on the left side, which features a stylized 'E' shape. The man's face is partially visible, showing his eyes, nose, and mouth. The background is a light, textured gray.

—Photo by Gilbert.

MAJOR SPENCER COSBY,
The New Commissioner.

**New Engineer Commissioner
Assumes Duties With
Brief Reception.**

It was semi-officially confirmed today that the summary dismissal of Engi-

A black and white portrait photograph of Major Spencer Cosby. He is a middle-aged man with a high forehead, balding on top, and a mustache. He is wearing a dark suit jacket over a light-colored shirt and a dark tie. The photograph is set within a rectangular frame that has a decorative, slightly irregular border.

neer Commissioner Jay S. Morrow, who turned over his office without a moment's warning to Maj. Spencer Cosby, late yesterday afternoon, was the result of an undiplomatic letter sent by Major Morrow to the President of the United States on a "trivial" District matter.

This "trivial" matter is said to have been Major Morrow's pointed objection to the President's plan to have District government supplies purchased in conjunction with Federal Government supplies and by Federal Government disbursing officers, rather than through the District property clerk as heretofore.

Resolution Next.

An intimation from one in authority that the bill is to be introduced in

Congress, as soon as it reconvenes, making such a plan a statutory enactment, is one of the interesting sidelights developing today.

It is understood that this difference of opinion consisted in a minority report on the part of Commissioner Morrow to one of the President's suggestions, a suggestion which Commissioners Macfarland and West acquiesced in. It is regarded as the culminating act connected with the administration of the office of Engineer Commissioner about which there has been more or less controversy, particularly affecting school repairs and the building inspector's office, during the past several weeks.

Order Imperative.

"Relieve Major Jay J. Morrow at once."

This is in substance a telegram received by the Secretary of War shortly after 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. It was signed by the President of the United States.

Secretary Wright communicated with the Chief of Engineers. It was found that Major Spencer Cosby was the only engineer on duty in Wash-

—Photo by Harris-Ewing.

MAJOR J. J. MORROW,
The Retiring Commissioner.

**OBSTRUCTION
STARTLE PITTSBURGH**

Councilmen and Bankers Accused of Grafting—Many Secure Bond.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Dec. 22.—With surprise that was startling, six councilmen, one select councilman, and two bankers are under arrest here

The orders came as a surprise to both officers, and the War Department did not know until today about the reason for the transfer than does the general public.

It is said that Mr. President's action in appointing Major Morrow came within thirty-six hours after the receipt of the objectionable letter from the Commissioner.

Although the President's suggestion regarding the purchase of supplies was not put into effect, it is generally understood that Commissioners West and

Macfarland diplomatically informed the money. It is further alleged th

(Continued on Second Page.) (Continued on Second Page.)

WHOLE SOUTH SEEKS

TO ENTER IN THE

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WHOLE SOUTH SEEKS TO ENTERTAIN TAFT

By JAMES HAY, Jr.

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TO ENTERTAIN TAFT

By JAMES HAY, Jr.

AUGUSTA, Ga., Dec. 22.—President-elect Taft has received invitations to visit nearly every town of any size at all in the South.

To most of these he has had to send refusals, as he has not the time to accept them. Nevertheless, his abiding desire to do all he can to make the Republican party and Republican principles the dominant factors in Southern

C., at least twenty-four hours before setting sail for the isthmus on January 25.

That the South is responding to the efforts to convert her to Republicanism is shown by the fact that she already has engagements for conferences here with several of the best known newspaper editors.

The newspapers of the South are doing all they can to attract the attention of the President-elect and at present

To most of these he has had to send refusals, as he has not the time to accept them. Nevertheless, his abiding desire to do all he can to make the Republican party and Republican principles the dominant factors in Southern politics has lead him to make every effort to get to the best known Southern cities as he possibly can.

He said today that if he could arrange it, he would visit New Orleans on his return from Panama on his way to Cincinnati. In addition to this, he already has promised to visit Atlanta,

there is a hot and picturesque controversy in between the Augusta and Charleston papers as to whether or not he made a mistake in choosing Augusta as his winter home. Charleston thinks he did, and Augusta is sure he did not.

Today was rainy, and Mr. Taft put the time dictating letters and signing acknowledgments of his election congratulations.

Some Move Being Made.
Secretary Root refuses to indicate what move is intended by this Government, but it is certain that a play of some sort is being made, in which the departure of the Maine and other war vessels of the United States, whose movements are being concealed, has a part.

The Maine could reach Curacao in a week's time, she having left Hampton Roads yesterday. The Dolphin and L. Moines, which have been ordered from Port au Prince upon a mysterious mission also, could make the journey in less time. The Bureau of Navigation refuses to divulge the destination of any of these vessels, but it is admitted that they are sailing in connection with orders from the State Department.

It is evident that Secretary Root desires to have representatives of the United States at hand with a strong force at their command, when the crisis in Venezuela is reached. He does not, however, desire to create the impression that he is, in any way, involving the United States in the more encouraging movement of a revolutionary movement in Venezuela. This one explanation of the secrecy covering the movements of the ships.

Venezuela Is Not Sad At Loss of Castro

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, Dec. 22.—The utter elimination of President Castro from the political life of Venezuela is accepted as an accomplished fact by Venezuelans everywhere, according to advices that reached here today from Caracas.

The ousting of the old ministry by acting President Gomez and the appointment of a new cabinet known to be out of sympathy with Castro's administration, is accepted as the culminating step toward the overthrow of Castro and is likely to be followed by the formal deposition of Castro.

The establishment of a new ministry has had a pacifying effect on the people as with it came the hint that negotiations would be resumed as speedily as possible for the settlement of the dispute with Holland.

In the deposed cabinet were José de Jesus Paul, minister of foreign affairs, who more than any other diplomat was responsible for the breach with Holland, and Dr. Baldo, now traveling with Castro.

These two men were so intimately identified with Castro that their presence in any cabinet would mean only one thing, according to the popular opinion of Venezuela: the virtual disposition of Venezuela: the virtual disposition of Venezuela.

Over the feeling against the self-exiled Castro continues at fever heat, and he would be in danger of immediate assassination were he to return now.

Coming of American Ships Not Feared by the Dutch

THE HAGUE, Dec. 22.—The reported dispatch of several American warships to the Caribbean is causing no alarm today in the Dutch foreign office. The government professes to have satisfactory assurances from Washington that no interference in Holland's campaign against Venezuela is contemplated, and that the complete overthrow of the Castro regime would be scarcely less welcome to the United States than to Holland.

Holland is anxious to treat with the new cabinet, and the possibility of which is considered remote. There is no possibility of Castro regaining his lost power, according to the Dutch opinion.

Castro's Overthrow Balks Germany's Trade Scheme

The collapse of the Castro regime is a distinct disappointment to Germany, which was figuring on several contracts from the President's alleged offer of a 10-year lease. It is now considered out of the question. As the treasury of Venezuela is no longer at his disposal, advance payment is considered impossible.

